

20031029.qrp v03_n088.qrl.20031029

Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 19:03:07 EST
From: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: QRP-L digest 3088

QRP-L Digest 3088

Topics covered in this issue include:

- 1) [160232] Re: Need car battery advice
by "Nick Kennedy" <nkennedy@tcainternet.com>
- 2) [160233] sr@hfradio.org: e-alert 10.28 21:04 UTC
by Rick McKee <kc8aon@juno.com>
- 3) [160234] Devastating California Bush Fires
by "Ian C. Purdie" <ianpurdie@integritynet.com.au>
- 4) [160235] Re: Need car battery advice
by "Mike Yetsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>
- 5) [160236] Re: Need car battery advice
by Tim Groat <tcgroat@earthlink.net>
- 6) [160237] FOX - Twofer!
by Al Scanandoah <k2zn@rochester.rr.com>
- 7) [160238] Re: Devastating California Bush Fires
by "Timothy-Allen Albertson-KG6IRH" <kg6irh@pacbell.net>
- 8) [160239] Re: Morse Code on TV
by "pschweit" <pschweit@mninter.net>
- 9) [160240] FOX: Sub-30 min. Twofer!!!
by Todd Enders <enders@bolshoi.cc.misu.nodak.edu>
- 10) [160241] SMK-1 smoke
by Kenneth Laine Ketner <ketner@arisbeassociates.com>
- 11) [160242] Lander, WY
by Chuck Adams <k7qo@commspeed.net>
- 12) [160243] FOX 2 fer tonight
by Karl Larsen <k5di@zianet.com>
- 13) [160244] Got one fox, the other got away
by Christopher Kovacs <ckovacs@mn.rr.com>
- 14) [160245] Re: Need car battery advice
by "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>
- 15) [160246] Re: Coax Fittings
by "Ron Pyle" <raple@gwrtc.net>
- 16) [160247] Foxes
by "Brent Sutphin WB4X" <bsutphin@triad.rr.com>
- 17) [160248] KH6/K0CD Preliminary CQWW SSB Results
by "pschweit" <pschweit@mninter.net>
- 18) [160249] Re: Soldering Coax fittings question
by "Lee Hopper" <leehopp@msn.com>
- 19) [160250] Re: Need car battery advice

- by Dan Harriman <kc5gxl@ih2000.net>
- 20) [160251] Wood boxes for radios
by James R Giammanco <n5ib@juno.com>
- 21) [160252] FOX - W5KDJ
by Wayne Rogers <w5kdj@juno.com>
- 22) [160253] Foxii - Only one tonight!
by "Lawrence Makoski" <Makos327@worldnet.att.net>
- 23) [160254] RUN FOR THE BACON
by "Jerry Ford" <benlightnd13@mchsi.com>
- 24) [160255] Re: FOX - W5KDJ
by "Jerry Ford" <benlightnd13@mchsi.com>
- 25) [160256] CE0Y/SP9EVP on 20 Meters
by Ted Albert <ted.albert@fuse.net>
- 26) [160257] Re: Soldering Coax fittings question
by John P-G <gm4slv@btopenworld.com>
- 27) [160258] FOX: First Outng
by "Tom Palmer" <n1tp@swfla.rr.com>
- 28) [160259] Knoxville, TN
by <charlescurrey1@imcingular.com> (CHARLES CURREY)
- 29) [160260] Fox Logging
by Al Scanandoah <k2zn@rochester.rr.com>
- 30) [160261] RE: Wood boxes for radios
by "Andrews, A. R." <Robert.A.Andrews@unisys.com>
- 31) [160262] Packet
by K4BYF@aol.com
- 32) [160263] Re: Foxii - Only one tonight!
by John Sielke <jsielke@pobox.com>
- 33) [160264] MPEGs of yesterdays solar event
by "Rod N0RC" <rod@n0rc.us>
- 34) [160265] Re: Foxii - Only one tonight!
by "Armin Hachmer" <armin@muskoka.com>
- 35) [160266] Re: Soldering Coax fittings question
by "Mike Yetsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>
- 36) [160267] Andy Rooney World Radio
by "Francis Callahan" <colcal@srv.net>
- 37) [160268] Re: Soldering Coax fittings question
by "Dale Parfitt" <par@parelectronics.com>
- 38) [160269] Measurement
by K4BYF@aol.com
- 39) [160270] Re: FOX - W5KDJ
by Chuck Adams <k7qo@commspeed.net>
- 40) [160271] Re: Andy Rooney World Radio
by John Sielke <jsielke@pobox.com>
- 41) [160272] FOX Hunting...persistence pays!
by Lloyd Lachow <llachow@yahoo.com>
- 42) [160273] Re: Foxii - Only one
by Bob KB2FEL <kb2fel@yahoo.com>
- 43) [160274] Iowa QRP Club CW net

by Mark Milburn <mark.milburn@ispwest.com>
44) [160275] Re: Foxii - Only one
by Lloyd Lachow <llachow@yahoo.com>
45) [160276] Re: FOX Hunting...persistence pays!
by "Lew Paceley" <lew@paceley.com>
46) [160277] Re: Measurement
by w9ya <w9ya@arrl.net>
47) [160278] did the flare flare?
by "Armin Hachmer" <armin@muskoka.com>
48) [160279] Twas the night before Sweep Stakes
by n8ie@woh.rr.com
49) [160280] Looking for NTE 180 and 181
by "dave" <kd3pc@mindspring.com>
50) [160281] Re: did the flare flare?
by "KB0VCC" <kb0vcc@Adelphia.Net>
51) [160282] Re: did the flare flare?
by "Jerry Ford" <benlightnd13@mchsi.com>
52) [160283] Re: did the flare flare?
by John P-G <gm4slv@btopenworld.com>
53) [160284] Shock wave hit
by Paul Harden <pharden@revere.aoc.nrao.edu>
54) [160285] Fwd: WWV-Message
by Ed Tanton <n4xy@earthlink.net>
55) [160286] Re: Shock wave hit
by w9ya <w9ya@arrl.net>
56) [160287] Re: Shock wave hit
by Ed Tanton <n4xy@earthlink.net>
57) [160288] Re: Shock wave hit
by Bob Nielsen <nielsen@oz.net>
58) [160289] Knoxville, TN
by <charlescurrey1@imcingular.com> (CHARLES CURREY)
59) [160290] Re: Shock wave hit
by "w8diz" <w8diz@cinci.rr.com>
60) [160291] Another big flare in progress (X10?)
by "sjolin" <sjolin@swbell.net>
61) [160292] cw software..
by "Sergio T. Ruiz" <sergio@philway.com>
62) [160293] Another One!
by John Sielke <jsielke@pobox.com>
63) [160294] FS: New SW-40+ kit
by Barry N1EU <n1eu@yahoo.com>
64) [160295] FOX W0UFO prelim log
by "Merton Nellis" <mertnellis@msn.com>
65) [160296] EchoLink - IRLP
by "Oleg V. Borodin" <master72@lipetsk.ru>
66) [160297] Re: Knoxville, TN
by "steve" <swells244@bellsouth.net>
67) [160298] FOX Hunt

- by "Merton Nellis" <mertnellis@msn.com>
- 68) [160299] Re: Soldering Coax fittings question
by "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>
- 69) [160300] Re: Andy Rooney World Radio
by "John J. McDonough" <wb8rcr@arrl.net>
- 70) [160301] Re: Soldering Coax fittings question
by John P-G <gm4slv@btopenworld.com>
- 71) [160302] Re: Soldering Coax fittings question
by "Mike Yettsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>
- 72) [160303] RE: did the flare flare?
by "Sverre Holm" <la3za@qsl.net>
- 73) [160304] Re: Soldering Coax fittings question
by John P-G <gm4slv@btopenworld.com>

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 18:32:07 -0800
From: "Nick Kennedy" <nkennedy@tcainternet.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [160232] Re: Need car battery advice
Message-ID: <007401c39dc4\$d9121e60\$0400000a@wa5bdu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Everyone's got their own threshold for how much prudence is prudent. I don't think the amount of H2 emitted by a car battery will cause an explosion hazard in a typical room. In a small enclosed space ... maybe.

The H2 given off increases with float voltage. EPRI and the industry defines 2.38 volts/cell as "gassing potential" for lead-acid. That would be 14.28 volts on a 6-cell battery. There's a formula for calculating the H2 production which I can't cite exactly, but it is exponential so I'd stick pretty closely to 13.8 most of the time. Another factor in the formula is temperature, where production increases as temperature rises.

Now *internal* explosions--that's a different deal. There should be features in the design of the battery to prevent this, but obviously they don't always work. The battery explosions I've heard of have always been the result of short circuits.

That (the available fault current) is another factor. As someone said, there's a lot of energy available. I'd recommend a fusible link directly off the positive post like in your car, and insulate that post well so nothing can bypass that fusible link.

My Miata has the battery in the trunk. The original one had a vent system

to put the H2 outside. But when I replaced it with a standard battery ...
no vent. I hope someday I won't find myself doing an imitation of a rocket
car on the Bonneville salt flats.

72--Nick, WA5BDU

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 20:34:25 -0500
From: Rick McKee <kc8aon@juno.com>
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU, fpqrp-1@mpna.com
Subject: [160233] sr@hfradio.org: e-alert 10.28 21:04 UTC
Message-ID: <20031028.203439.3494.1.kc8aon@juno.com>

----- Begin forwarded message -----
From: sr@hfradio.org
To: salist@hfradio.org
Subject: e-alert 10.28 21:04 UTC
Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 13:11:07 -0800
Message-ID: <200310282111.h9SLB6223576@accessnow.com>

At 1110 28-X-03 UTC an X17.2-class flare occurred,
causing a strong solar radiation storm and a proton
event. A full-halo CME was detected. Initial CME
shockwave expected at about 1500Z 29 OCT 2003.
Severe to Extreme (G4/G5) geomagnetic activity
expected. More info:
<http://www.hfradio.org/forums/viewtopic.php?t=75>

----- End forwarded message -----

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Surf the web up to FIVE TIMES FASTER!
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Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 12:39:11 +1100
From: "Ian C. Purdie" <ianpurdie@integritynet.com.au>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>,
SOC <soc@mailman.qth.net>
Subject: [160234] Devastating California Bush Fires
Message-ID: <3F9F1A3F.ECF36B0B@integritynet.com.au>
MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit

Amid the tragic devastation of California's bush fires emerges the most oddest of things.

"Devastation . . . eucalyptus trees stand unscathed alongside a street of burned out homes in the San Diego suburb of Scripps Ranch yesterday...."

<http://dailytelegraph.news.com.au/story.jsp?sectionid=1260&storyid=406242>

Obviously the print version of our newspaper carries a much, much larger photograph but, most of us here are confused by burned out houses amid untouched eucalypts. Strange...

Our thoughts are very much with everyone affected. We know what it's like.

72/73's

Ian C. Purdie
Budgewoi N.S.W. Australia - Co-ords S33 14', E151 34'
VK2TIP "I'll give ya the TIP mate" QRP-L #1978. SOC #171 FP#91
<http://www.electronics-tutorials.com/>

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 20:54:08 -0500
From: "Mike Yetsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>
To: <nkennedy@tcainternet.com>,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [160235] Re: Need car battery advice
Message-ID: <004a01c39dbf\$8c166c60\$0200a8c0@charter.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

> My Miata has the battery in the trunk. The original one had a vent
system
> to put the H2 outside. But when I replaced it with a standard battery
...
> no vent. I hope someday I won't find myself doing an imitation of a
rocket
> car on the Bonneville salt flats.
>
> 72--Nick, WA5BDU

That 'urban legend' about the guy with JATO units on his Catalina was false. It was actually a Miata with a battery in the trunk that...

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 19:14:57 -0700
From: Tim Groat <tcgroat@earthlink.net>
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [160236] Re: Need car battery advice
Message-ID: <5.1.1.6.2.20031028184824.00a12200@mail.earthlink.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

The number of plates has more to do with cranking power than with deep-cycle capability. More plates means more surface area, which means more amperes available to the starter.

For deep cycle use, you want thick plates. Thicker material means the plate takes more abuse before corrosion eats it away. Internal corrosion is a major limitation for deep cycle battery life. Deep cycle batteries usually have fewer, thicker plates than a starting battery. The reduced surface area makes them poor performers as starting batteries, but the thicker parts means more charge-discharge cycles before replacement. This construction is typical of golf cart batteries.

The "Marine" battery is a compromise: it has adequate starting power for boating, while surviving deep discharge use better than an automobile battery.

The auto battery should be OK for occasional backup power (emergency use), but frequent deep discharges will bring it to an early end. But at that garage-sale price, it's still a bargain!

No matter which battery you use, keep it in an acid-resistant battery box with a vented cover (RV and boating shops sell them). It's cheap protection against shorted terminals and other accidents. Look at a powered wheelchair--even though they use "sealed" batteries, they still use battery containers for safety's sake.

72,
--Tim (KR0U)

>"George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>:
>
>The 'quality' car batteries have more plates. So, if luck
>delivered a battery with 13 or 15 plates/cell, it's gonna
>work well when cycled. I used to use these to power wireless

>telemetry equipment charged from solar cells. They'd last for
>years out in the field.

>

>The 'cheap' auto batteries have 7 - 9 plates per cell.

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 21:27:26 -0500
From: Al Scanandoah <k2zn@rochester.rr.com>
To: qrp-l <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [160237] FOX - Twofer!
Message-ID: <3F9F258E.3000201@rochester.rr.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii; format=flowed
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

In spite of the gloom and doom caused by the sun spewing down upon us,
there were plenty of strong QRP sigs on 40 this evening.

Looks like my antenna tweaks may have paid off.

72 - Al, K2ZN

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 18:41:29 -0800
From: "Timothy-Allen Albertson-KG6IRH" <kg6irh@pacbell.net>
To: <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [160238] Re: Devastating California Bush Fires
Message-ID: <014c01c39dc6\$2af831a0\$1715ad40@computer>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

probably because there was an effort made to prevent the Eukes from being
burned in the 91 Oakland Hills fire Eukes actually blew-up and made the
fire much worse

----- Original Message -----

From: "Ian C. Purdie" <ianpurdie@integritynet.com.au>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2003 5:39 PM
Subject: Devastating California Bush Fires

> Amid the tragic devastation of California's bush fires emerges the most
oddest
> of things.
>
> "Devastation . . . eucalyptus trees stand unscathed alongside a street of
> burned out homes in the San Diego suburb of Scripps Ranch yesterday...."
>
> <http://dailytelegraph.news.com.au/story.jsp?sectionid=1260&storyid=406242>
>
> Obviously the print version of our newspaper carries a much, much larger
> photograph but, most of us here are confused by burned out houses amid
> untouched eucalypts. Strange...
>
> Our thoughts are very much with everyone affected. We know what it's like.
>
> 72/73's
>
> Ian C. Purdie
> Budgewoi N.S.W. Australia - Co-ords S33 14', E151 34'
> VK2TIP "I'll give ya the TIP mate" QRP-L #1978. SOC #171 FP#91
> <http://www.electronics-tutorials.com/>
>

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 20:49:35 -0600
From: "pschweit" <pschweit@mninter.net>
To: <aa4lr@arrl.net>,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [160239] Re: Morse Code on TV
Message-ID: <006401c39dc7\$4bbc7300\$3de7add1@oemcomputer>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

surprising enough

I heard the end of that at work

copied ING PEOPLE

de K0CD

----- Original Message -----

From: Bill Coleman <aa4lr@arrl.net>

To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2003 7:08 AM
Subject: RE: Morse Code on TV

> On 10/3/03 11:41 PM, Steve.Lawrence@ITWFEG.COM at
> Steve.Lawrence@ITWFEG.COM wrote:
>
> >Then there's most Nokia cell phones.... one of the "rings" is a message
in
> >Morse code.
>
> CONNECTING PEOPLE
>
> (I was recently at a funeral, and someone forgot to turn off their cell
> phone. I distinctly heard this ring....)
>
>
>
> Bill Coleman, AA4LR, PP-ASEL Mail: aa4lr@arrl.net
> Quote: "Not within a thousand years will man ever fly!"
> -- Wilbur Wright, 1901
>

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 20:56:00 -0600
From: Todd Enders <enders@bolshoi.cc.misu.nodak.edu>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [160240] FOX: Sub-30 min. Twofer!!!
Message-ID: <6D61DDEA-09BB-11D8-9CE6-000A957FF9F2@bolshoi.cc.misu.nodak.edu>
Mime-Version: 1.0 (Apple Message framework v552)
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII; format=flowed
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I was hoping for some of that flare-induced pre-shock wave mojo,
and by gum, it looks like I got a little bit. :-) W0UFO fell first,
about 10
minutes into the hunt, and W5KDJ came to the bag about 15 min. after
that. Couple nice pelts, all scraped down and drying on the wall... :-)

On the other hand, actually *getting* the station ready for the
festivities was a fair bit of work. I'd planned on stringing a dipole
from
a couple handy trees here at the new digs, and had put the string to
haul the antenna up last night. Of course, it was blowing 30-50 mph
all night long, and even though I'd stretched the string tight and tied
it off securely, the trees entwined the string with a death grip, and I

broke one line off about half way through the antenna raising.

I had got the radials for the vertical laid, but not soldered to the buss ring. Also had some nice coax waiting for permanent installation out to the vertical. Getting dark when the dipole support string broke, so I raced around in the garage to hunt up enough coax, splices, etc., to get from the shack out to the HF-2V. Also scared up some spare wire to wrap around the radial ends to tie them together and hook to the base of the vert. Brother was en route with bow and arrow to hopefully string a new line before it got too dark to see. Coax was RG-8, 25+ years old, and of unknown quality.

Had *just* enough to make it in through the window and to the matchbox. No time to adjust the 40m coil on the HF-2V. Getting *real* dark. Brother is stuck at a train crossing. Pull the coax in, hook everything up, check the SWR -- it's high. Twiddle the dials of the matchbox, and all comes good. Eat supper, get set up, and let 'er buck...

Even with the hasty lash-up, it seems everything worked out OK. If we don't get the 6" of snow the weather man is forecasting, I'll have the dipole up, and the vertical situated before next week's session. :-)

72/73,

Todd, AG0T

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 21:05:02 -0600
From: Kenneth Laine Ketner <ketner@arisbeassociates.com>
To: qrp list <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [160241] SMK-1 smoke
Message-ID: <3F9F2E5B.C55AE4C0@arisbeassociates.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii; x-mac-type="54455854"; x-mac-creator="4D4F5353"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Greetings Liliputians and Sun worshipers:

After what I thought was a decent build of a SMK-1 surface mount rig board, the first exposure to 12 volts produced smoke in VR3, the TX tune pot. I went back over the board and the only thing I could find is that I got C11 installed in reverse polarity. I fixed that with a new component installed correctly. No signal heard in the RX. I do hear a

few clicks when I connect a battery.

Would be grateful for trouble-shooting advice.

--

Ken Ketner
ARS KA5ELD (Extra Class)
Personal Webpage: <http://www.wyttynys.net>
Office Webpage: <http://www.pragmaticism.net>
Email:
home: ketner@arisbeassociates.com
office: kenneth.ketner@ttu.edu

US MAIL
PO Box 65135
Lubbock, TX 79464

Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 03:05:39 +0000
From: Chuck Adams <k7qo@commspeed.net>
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [160242] Lander, WY
Message-ID: <5.2.1.1.0.20031029025950.01dd9d10@mail.commspeed.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

Gang,

Lander, WY weather report from the weather channel.

Thursday Snow 28 F/ 20 F Hi/Lo Temps
Friday Snow 25 F/ 12 F
Saturday Snow 28 F/ 14 F
Sunday Snow 33 F/ 15 F

Sounds like they waited until I am getting there to get
their first snow of the season. 1.5' last year with -15F

Yet another good year for antenna work for SS. :-)

See ya during the test. If you need WY for WAS,
let me know by late tomorrow. I should be on 20m
Friday afternoon and Saturday a.m. or you can catch

me during the test. Will be 10m mobile all day Thursday and Friday a.m. (CW that is around the QRP frequency).

dit dit de K7Q0/7 soon to be

Chuck Adams K7Q0 k7qo@commspeed.net
http://www.qsl.net/k7qo CP-60

Moving to Arizona? Please bring your own water.

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 20:08:18 -0700 (MST)
From: Karl Larsen <k5di@zianet.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [160243] FOX 2 fer tonight
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.44.0310282002540.4680-1000000@bucket.dog>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Boy signals were down but I finally was able to copy Mert and he got me at 0259. Then found Wayne and he was not real busy so at 0302 he heard me and I had my 2 fer for the first hunt.

If you haven't read Paul's message on the solar flare you better do it. I'm turning my computer off right after sending this. It looks like the hardest hit earth has taken since 1857.

I'm taking a flashlight to bed. Getting up at midnight looking for the northern lights in this city on the Mexican line.

--

- Karl Larsen k5di Las Cruces, NM Az ScQRPions -

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 21:21:54 -0600
From: Christopher Kovacs <ckovacs@mn.rr.com>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [160244] Got one fox, the other got away
Message-ID: <3F9F3252.6040709@mn.rr.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii; format=flowed
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

My first fox hunt! I really enjoyed it, except the fox that got away.
You see the other fox, W0UFO, is in my backyard, and couldn't even hear
the little fella. Maybe next week.

72/73 to all,

Chris W0ANM

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 21:31:01 -0600
From: "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>
To: <tcgroat@earthlink.net>,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [160245] Re: Need car battery advice
Message-ID: <006501c39dcd\$28afc410\$0401a8c0@PS>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Sorry, Tim, but the quoted remark was not from me.

73/72, George
Amateur Radio W5YR - the Yellow Rose of Texas
Fairview, TX 30 mi NE of Dallas in Collin county EM13QE
"Starting the 58th year and it just keeps getting better!"
w5yr@att.net

----- Original Message -----
From: "Tim Groat" <tcgroat@earthlink.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2003 8:14 PM
Subject: Re: Need car battery advice

<snip>

> 72,
> --Tim (KROU)

>
> >"George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>:
> >
> >The 'quality' car batteries have more plates. So, if luck
> >delivered a battery with 13 or 15 plates/cell, it's gonna
> >work well when cycled. I used to use these to power wireless
> >telemetry equipment charged from solar cells. They'd last for
> >years out in the field.
> >
> >The 'cheap' auto batteries have 7 - 9 plates per cell.
>
>
>

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 20:34:27 -0700
From: "Ron Pyle" <raple@gwtc.net>
To: <peterlee@qx.net>,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [160246] Re: Coax Fittings
Message-ID: <007201c39dcd\$8e4726b0\$65aaafb40@yourjbuypagwhk>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

> I'm sure others have differing opinions about this so any other tips are welcome.

I'm new to ham. But many many years ago....(I think it was a millenium) , I worked in marine electronics. To try to do a PL259 without burning up the center insulator:

This is for RG8.....or whatever it's called now.

First.... we tinned the shield. A little more than would fit inside the PL259.

We cut the end of the shield off with good small pipe cutter. Have to be careful as to not lessen the distance between the shield and center conductor.... Usually that happened with a dull pipe cutter. Worked good.

So when you solder the shield inside the holes. As soon as that PL259 got hot enough and solder flowed between the connector and shield...filled the hole quickly and got out. Then allowed everything to cool before doing another hole. Takes time, but avoids melting the center insulator.

The waiting on cooling usually meant doing several connectors at one time.

Even the center conductor we would tin. Tinning allowed quicker soldering and avoiding melting insulation.

Always, when soldering, heat up what you have to and get out as quick as you can.

With RG58 or anything smaller where you used a spacer/adaptor in the PL259. Once we pulled the shield back over the adaptor....we would tin the shield....

They had just started with foam in RG59 then. I had trouble with it. Difficult not to melt that foam when tinning or soldering.

Ron
KC0QXU
FP-682

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 22:52:47 -0500
From: "Brent Sutphin WB4X" <bsutphin@triad.rr.com>
To: <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [160247] Foxes
Message-ID: <00c601c39dd0\$1fed9c50\$9e6d1f18@BandE>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Bagged both Foxes...and even found a Truffle to boot. I had a great time with tonight's Fox Hunt, even though band conditions were not good here. (really terrible) Wayne almost got away but he finally heard me. Great Fun!!!

72
Brent WB4X

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 22:01:30 -0600
From: "pschweit" <pschweit@mninter.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>

Cc: <mnqrp-l@mailman.qth.net>, "Max Moon" <maxmoon@umn.edu>,
"Merton Nellis" <Mertnellis@msn.com>, "Jim NOUR" <n0ur@attbi.com>,
Subject: [160248] KH6/K0CD Preliminary CQWW SSB Results
Message-ID: <006e01c39dd1\$57df8d20\$3de7add1@oemcomputer>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I had fun participating in the contest. Special Thanks to NH7Y for the advice and assistance.

I used a headset with an HC-4 element, FT-817 , BLT to a ballanced line dipole in a semi inverted v configuration.

DXCC contries contacted: 9M2, CA, CV, HC8, HK, HL, JA, K, KH0, KH2, KH6, LU, OA, PP, TI, UA0, V3, V7, VE, VK, VK9X, VP5, XE, ZK1,

About 85 QSOs still need to dupe and score the log.

QSOs of note

NH7Y,,,, Fianally got KH6,,, hi hi

K0SQ,, Made it to the State of Minnesota,,, (MN QRP club member) on 10

K7ZSD,,, on 40

LT1F,,,, yes ,, only 5 watts!!

I apologise to DL1ZU,,, I did not hear any stations from Europe or Africa.

de K0CD

ex KA0PGQ, DA2XL

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 20:35:22 -0800
From: "Lee Hopper" <leehopp@msn.com>
To: "Posting to the list QRP-L" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [160249] Re: Soldering Coax fittings question
Message-ID: <BAY4-DAV130jelqi3op00014c86@hotmail.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Gang -

I've been reading this thread and thinking about the times I have tried (with varying success) to do this.

Maybe I'm a wuss, but are you aware of the great job at reasonable prices done by cable experts? <<http://www.cablexperts.com/>> You can order direct or HRO carries them.

I have no financial interest, just a satisfied customer -

Lee Hopper, NB7F

Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 04:45:51 -0600
From: Dan Harriman <kc5gxl@ih2000.net>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [160250] Re: Need car battery advice
Message-ID: <5.0.2.1.1.20031029023637.00a010c0@mail.ih2000.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

Hello all;

Nick, you are probably correct in that a car battery may not out-gas enough to cause an explosion like a hydrogen bomb. But in my 30 + years as an ASE certified master automotive technician, I can assure you that batteries do definitely explode, not only from internal or external shorts, but from sparks, lit cigarettes or lighters, causing severe damage in some cases. Just smoking around a car battery, or one that is being charged, one that has a dead cell that is being charged - or discharged, can cause the battery to explode. This is outside, with the hood up and plenty of air circulation. A accidental spark around a battery that has given off some hydrogen, no matter the reason can cause an explosion.

To do that around a battery that is inside a room is not the best of choices.

Acid burns are not nice things to look at. It can change your life. It can disfigure you. It can blind you. It can kill you. It can cause corrosion in the wiring to an outlet that may be near the battery (if the acid gets into the terminal), with a fire potential as a result.

The best bet to using a lead/acid battery as the power supply is to use a deep cycle marine type battery that is made to handle many discharge cycles. Keep it outside and run wires to the inside. Use a fuse on the power wire that is at the amp rating of the unit the battery is powering. Make sure the wire can carry the current required. If a charger is needed to recharge the battery, have a set of cables that stay attached to the battery and connect the charger to the other end of those. If you use a jumper cable and your car as the charging system, always hook the negative cable up last and disconnect it first, and then at a remote spot away from either battery.

The original poster said that he bought a \$6.00 battery from a garage sale or someplace like that. The question really should be "Is the \$6.00 battery that I bought any good, or good for a power supply in my shack?" Or maybe just "Why is this battery only \$6.00?"

Be safe,

Dan Harriman
Orange, Texas

.At 20:32 10/28/2003, you wrote:

>Everyone's got their own threshold for how much prudence is prudent. I
>don't think the amount of H2 emitted by a car battery will cause an
>explosion hazard in a typical room. In a small enclosed space ... maybe.

.

If at first you don't succeed, maybe you shouldn't try sky diving!

dit dit

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 20:51:44 PST
From: James R Giammanco <n5ib@juno.com>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.edu
Subject: [160251] Wood boxes for radios
Message-ID: <20031028.234340.8223.0.n5ib@juno.com>

As many of you know, I like to enclose my radio projects in wood boxes - some store bought, some homebrew.
see <<http://www.qsl.net/n5ib>>

I want to pass along a find at the local Hobby Lobby store. Item #933580 (EF817WQ-L) is a "wooden treasure box" measuring 4.95" L x 3.95" W x 3.10" H (outside dimensions) It has a curved (treasure chest style) lid comprised of 8 slats, and has 2 brass hinges and a brass latch. The inside dimensions comfortably fit a Small Wonder Labs SW+ series board. Price \$2.67

There is a smaller version of the same style. also Item # 933580 but (EF817WQ-S) 3.90" L x 2.75" W x 2.40" H. It will neatly hold a 'Tenna Dipper board and 9 V battery. Or, nicely cradles a RockMite. Price \$1.99. Hmmm, about the same price as an Altoids tin, but you aren't morally obligated to eat anything :^))

The really neat QRP part is - they're on sale for half price through Saturday - so they're \$1.35 and \$1.00 - shucks, the brass hinges and the latch would cost a buck or two if you bought them separately. And no nasty minty aftertaste! I brought home a half dozen, plus a couple of other styles I found.

The usual disclaimer applies - no pecuniary interest expressed or implied, just a satisfied bargain hunter.

Here's to wooden radios...

72
Jim N5IB

PS - copper foil linings and PC board panels provide shielding when needed.

The best thing to hit the internet in years - Juno SpeedBand!
Surf the web up to FIVE TIMES FASTER!
Only \$14.95/ month - visit www.juno.com to sign up today!

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 22:53:32 -0600
From: Wayne Rogers <w5kdj@juno.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.EDU
Subject: [160252] FOX - W5KDJ
Message-ID: <20031028.225332.-1689457.0.w5kdj@juno.com>

MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Well that was quite an experience.
93 QSO's logged. Will forward log tomorrow for any corrections & my
comments.
I feel kinda tired for some reason.

Wayne_W5KDJ
ex: SV0WWW_TF2WJN 100% A1
ARS_1392 ARCI_11325 FP-626 e-QSL
FISTS_10060 SOC_538 HQRP ARRL

Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 00:07:19 -0500
From: "Lawrence Makoski" <Makos327@worldnet.att.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [160253] Foxii - Only one tonight!
Message-ID: <00a501c39dda\$87c98c30\$77b8590c@larrysahyqy001>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I was fortunate to work Mert, W0UFO at 0340Z. I heard a bunch of hounds
pouncing on what must have been Wayne, W5KDJ; but alas, I couldn't even
hear him in this part of NJ. Better luck next week?

73 de Larry W2LJ - Vivat Morse!

W2LJ@arrl.net
<http://www.qsl.net/w2lj>

ARRL Lifemember QRP ARCI #4488 NJQRP #47
FISTS #1469 QRP-L #778 FP #612 QRPp-I #759
ARS #1528 --- K1 #1647 --- AmQRP, CQC #746

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 23:03:43 -0600
From: "Jerry Ford" <benlightnd13@mchsi.com>
To: "qrp-l" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>, "Pigs" <multipigplus@yahoo.com>,
"FPigs" <fpqrp-l@mpna.com>
Subject: [160254] RUN FOR THE BACON

Message-ID: <005a01c39dda\$06ec80e0\$4a78da0c@mchsi.com>

Ladies and Gents:

It is my pleasure to announce the next " Run For The Bacon " sprint.
Watch for this coming to a theater near you !!

On Nov 9th / 10th we going to do it again.

If you have as much trouble with UTC times as I do, we are going for
top honors in working piggies etc. on Sunday evening, Nov 9th
from 0030z to 0230z which by UTC time is actually Monday.

Pass the word because the bands are going to be in great shape as the
wx cools off giving you a much better chance of scoring high by using
mutiple bands.

See the post on the web page at
<http://www.fpqrp.com/fpqrprun.html>

Here's the break down:

Catagories: All bands or Single band
Mode: CW only in this one folks

Exchange: RST, SPC, FP# and for non members
PWR out

Points: 3 points for each FP member
5 points for members different continents
(this could be a biggi this run)
1 point for non members
Your total time 2 if you work more than 50

FP's

Multipliers: SPC total for all bands
X's 2 for 50 or more FP's

Scoring: It's easy thanks to pappa Diz and the
AUTOLOG he built for us. Just plug in
your numbers and the log figures it up for
you.

If you don't have access to the AUTOLOG??
Send me your log and I'll make sure it get put in for you

Send it e-mail Atten: FP Sprint to
Jerry Ford (N0JRN)
benlightnd13@mchsi.com

(plain text / no attachments please)

OR: By mail to:
Jerry Ford
944 S. Belcrest
Springfield, Mo. 65802

Please see the web site for suggested freqs:
<http://www.fpqrp.com/fpqrpun.html>

(Brian, we saved a freq just for you)

This is going to be a lot of fun. I hope to see each and every one of you on the air working your little oinkers off.

Pass the word to one and all and make it more fun for everyone.

Come one, come all and have an oinken good time with us.

72 / 73 and Oink Oink

Jerry N0JRN

FP # 546, 4SQRP, ARS # 923, ARCI # 11049, ARRL,
Springfield, Mo. MP + #8

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 23:05:07 -0600
From: "Jerry Ford" <benlightnd13@mchsi.com>
To: "qrp-l" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [160255] Re: FOX - W5KDJ
Message-ID: <006001c39dda\$39d50900\$4a78da0c@mchsi.com>

Great Job Wayne:

You and Mert both made it a great time tonight

72 es oo Jerry N0JRN

----- Original Message -----
From: "Wayne Rogers" <w5kdj@juno.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2003 10:53 PM
Subject: FOX - W5KDJ

> Well that was quite an experience.
> 93 QSO's logged. Will forward log tomorrow for any corrections &
my
> comments.
> I feel kinda tired for some reason.
>
> Wayne_W5KDJ
> ex: SV0WWW_TF2WJN 100% A1
> ARS_1392 ARCI_11325 FP-626 e-QSL
> FISTS_10060 SOC_538 HQRP ARRL

Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 00:48:49 -0500
From: Ted Albert <ted.albert@fuse.net>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [160256] CE0Y/SP9EVP on 20 Meters
Message-ID: <200310290048.49999.ted.albert@fuse.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Disposition: inline

Hi,

Worked CE0Y/SP9EVP about 20 minutes ago on 14.017. Rig used here was my
Ten-Tec Argonaut II at 5W to an end-fed full wave at 15 feet. Twenty
is open but activity appears to be on the low end. V31LZ was calling CQ
at 14.020.

72 de Ted, AB8FJ

Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 08:02:39 +0000
From: John P-G <gm4slv@btopenworld.com>
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [160257] Re: Soldering Coax fittings question
Message-ID: <fisupv0tcbngmk2vmf29t1lkrs6r114201@4ax.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

Recently ARDUJENSKI@aol.com wrote:

>I have had marginal success with the use of a 100/140 watt Weller gun =
for=20
>soldering of coax fittings. I noted that Weller has a 200/260 and =
200/300 watt=20
>models. I was wondering if these higher wattage guns make the job not =
only=20
>easier but also better quality fitting connections

My preferred method is not to use PL259s in the first place (only one
of the many reasons is because of this very problem),

I use BNCs for virtually everything, and occasionally N-Types.

On rigs that it's been impossible to fit a BNC or N-type in place of
the S0239 I've fitted a good quality PL259/BNC adaptor in place
(permanently).

On HB rigs it's easy - fit a BNC in the first place!

Just make sure you get GOOD BNC/Ns - with proper ferrule and cable
clamp and fitting them is a breeze.

Sorry if this stirs up a raging PL259 v BNC war, but RF performance
aside, on th question of fitting connectors, there appears to be much
difficulty around (myself included) that using "proper" RF connectors
has got to be a valid solution!

Regards,

--=20

John P-G

GM4SLV

G-QRP-Club: 2377

K1-2 (40 & 20) : #1672

Shetland Islands, UK

Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 07:27:54 -0500
From: "Tom Palmer" <n1tp@swfla.rr.com>
To: "QRP-L" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [160258] FOX: First Outng
Message-ID: <000501c39e18\$1a3cc5e0\$11330843@swfla.rr.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;

charset="Windows-1252"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

The first outing got off to a darn good start. Band conditions were surprizing good in Southwest Florida last evening during the QRP-L FOX HUNTS' first outing. Them "Pesky Texans" - as usual - were pounding into Collier County. They were bagging more then their fair share of pelts, as always.

I clearly heard the din of the hounds calling both FOXes. Wayne, being in Texas, was louder - as always - than was Mert in Mn., but both FOXes had darn good signals in Naples, as did many hounds, except from the Northeast, which sounded slightly muted compared to their usual signals. I manged to bag the Truffle (at 0144) after a few calls; bagged Wayne at 0209 and Mert at 0220.

Both FOXes did an excellent job and we sincerely appreciate their efforts.

Tom, N1TP
Naples, Florida

Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 07:28:37 -0500
From: <charlescurrey1@imcingular.com> (CHARLES CURREY)
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [160259] Knoxville, TN
Message-ID: <10092684.1200275031@imcingular.com>

Group,

I find myself in Knoxville for the next four days with a little spare time on my hands. Does anyone have information on ham radio stores in the area where one might spend a little time brousing? Any help would be appreciated.

73,

Chuck Currey, kg4qqh

Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 07:31:45 -0500
From: Al Scanandoah <k2zn@rochester.rr.com>

To: qrp-1 <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [160260] Fox Logging
Message-ID: <3F9FB331.60500@rochester.rr.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii; format=flowed
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi

Coming December, I'll be having my first turn as the hunted. In preparation for that, I'd like to get some input as to what logging programs you veterans are using. I know that paper and pencil work fine, but to be honest, my handwriting is terrible!

Tnx & 72 - Al, K2ZN

Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 07:42:46 -0500
From: "Andrews, A. R." <Robert.A.Andrews@unisys.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [160261] RE: Wood boxes for radios
Message-ID: <3010F4D7BBD5F64C9C2D17B9D17BB377026C9AC6@USTR-EXCH4.na.uis.unisys.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
content-class: urn:content-classes:message
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"

Hi Jim - I enjoyed the pictures and thanks for the ideas. I wonder if you could give some details on how you did your panels. They look very professional. I think that the wooden boxes remind me of old instruments in their wooden cases making the units look very attractive.
Thanks again and 73, Bob, K3QXH

-----Original Message-----

From: owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU [mailto:owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU] On Behalf Of James R Giammanco
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2003 11:52 PM
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
Subject: Wood boxes for radios

As many of you know, I like to enclose my radio projects in wood boxes - some store bought, some homebrew.
see <<http://www.qsl.net/n5ib>>

I want to pass along a find at the local Hobby Lobby store. Item #933580 (EF817WQ-L) is a "wooden treasure box" measuring 4.95" L x 3.95" W x 3.10" H (outside dimensions) It has a curved (treasure chest style) lid comprised of 8 slats, and has 2 brass hinges and a brass latch. The inside dimensions comfortably fit a Small Wonder Labs SW+ series board. Price \$2.67

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The really neat QRP part is - they're on sale for half price through Saturday - so they're \$1.35 and \$1.00 - shucks, the brass hinges and the latch would cost a buck or two if you bought them separately. And no nasty minty aftertaste! I brought home a half dozen, plus a couple of other styles I found.

The usual disclaimer applies - no pecuniary interest expressed or implied, just a satisfied bargain hunter.

Here's to wooden radios...

72

Jim N5IB

PS - copper foil linings and PC board panels provide shielding when needed.

The best thing to hit the internet in years - Juno SpeedBand!
Surf the web up to FIVE TIMES FASTER!
Only \$14.95/ month - visit www.juno.com to sign up today!

Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 07:52:19 EST
From: K4BYF@aol.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [160262] Packet
Message-ID: <159.26b1c5ee.2cd11203@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Does anyone have trouble shooting info on a Bay Pac BP-1 Modem?

Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 08:13:45 -0500
From: John Sielke <jsielke@pobox.com>
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [160263] Re: Foxii - Only one tonight!
Message-ID: <200310290813.45493.jsielke@pobox.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Disposition: inline

>I was fortunate to work Mert, W0UFO at 0340Z. I heard a bunch of hounds
>pouncing on what must have been Wayne, W5KDJ; but alas, I couldn't even
>hear him in this part of NJ. Better luck next week?

Also worked Mert early. I could hear Wayne, but just barely. Every time I
thought he was coming up in strength and gave a call, he faded out again.
Strange conditions as usually "Pesky Texans" are strong in here. Skip seemed
short as Ohio, Kentucky, etc were blasting in.

John W2AGN

Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 06:30:24 -0700
From: "Rod N0RC" <rod@n0rc.us>
To: "cqc-1" <CQCLIST@yahooogroups.com>, "qrp-1" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>,
<elecraft@mailman.qth.net>
Subject: [160264] MPEGs of yesterdays solar event
Message-ID: <010701c39e20\$cf8e7df0\$6501a8c0@greyrock>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Available on the SOHO website:

http://sohowww.nascom.nasa.gov/hotshots/2003_10_28/

73, Rod N0RC

Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 08:36:21 -0500
From: "Armin Hachmer" <armin@muskoka.com>
To: <Makos327@worldnet.att.net>,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [160265] Re: Foxii - Only one tonight!
Message-ID: <002d01c39e21\$a4bc0240\$6d6c7bd8@muskoka.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Well last night was my first effort at sniffing for a pelt and with a new rig at that.
I heard the hounds barking loud and clear but....i only heard Mert ONCE and only his suffix at that. Poor conditions, lousy fox hunter... but the solar flare did not cut the power this morning and the toast and coffee are good as ever.
Armin ve3teq in central Ontario.

Subject: Foxii - Only one tonight!

> I was fortunate to work Mert, W0UFO at 0340Z. I heard a bunch of hounds
> pouncing on what must have been Wayne, W5KDJ; but alas, I couldn't even
> hear him in this part of NJ. Better luck next week?
>
> 73 de Larry W2LJ - Vivat Morse!

Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 09:06:55 -0500
From: "Mike Yetsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>
To: <gm4slv@btopenworld.com>,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [160266] Re: Soldering Coax fittings question
Message-ID: <003501c39e26\$32fea180\$0200a8c0@charter.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

> Sorry if this stirs up a raging PL259 v BNC war, but RF performance
> aside, on th question of fitting connectors, there appears to be much
> difficulty around (myself included) that using "proper" RF connectors
> has got to be a valid solution!

You seem to be under the mistaken impression that the best tool is
always the best tool for the job.

First off, yes, from an RF standpoint BNCs offer advantages over
PL-259. But BNCs are hardly the end-all in connectors. For one
thing, cabling is limited with BNC. And if there is ANY mechanical
stress to the connection, BNC is a joke.

And before you fire back, yes, I will admit to converting some rigs
to BNC. In fact, I found that some rigs that have 'pigtailed' on them
with SO-239s you can just unscrew the compression fitting for the
pigtail and fit a BNC chassis mount jack right there. I did this for
my old IC-27a years ago. And my K2 setup for home and the
'grab-n-go' bag are all BNC.

But BNC is still limited, mostly from a mechanical point of view, and
the connectors ARE VERY difficult to put on so that they will handle
mechanical stress.

As to adapters... Why? From an 'RF' standpoint, if you use any
adapter you've just totally negated any advantage of the BNC. You
still have the impedance bump of the PL, and you've ADDED another
from the adapter. Poor thinking there, in my mind. The ONLY place
I use an adapter is to ADAPT, not to make a permanent fitting. In
fact, I can think of only 3 places I have adapters. One is BNC to
binding post. The other two are a UHF amp that came with N
connectors, and I put on adapters to go to PL just to use a PL interface
that already existed.

Mike

Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 07:28:04 -0700
From: "Francis Callahan" <colcal@srv.net>
To: <QRP-L@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [160267] Andy Rooney World Radio
Message-ID: <001101c39e28\$df9266a0\$dcce1341@callahan>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Can anyone figure which radio Andy has on his desk in the picture on the front of the Nov World Radio 72 Cal KF7ET

Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 09:34:32 -0500
From: "Dale Parfitt" <par@parelectronics.com>
To: <gm4slv@btopenworld.com>,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [160268] Re: Soldering Coax fittings question
Message-ID: <006701c39e29\$c67b8f60\$9ec0f043@D57H2931>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi John,
We (I) install perhaps 10 PL259's per day as part of our product line. We use a Weller 100W iron for the solder holes and a 30W iron for the center pin.
As each of the 4 drain holes is soldered, the area is wiped with a cloth to remove the flux. Same on the center pin. The connector type is important. We use a silver/teflon PL259 from The RF Connection.. The barrel wall is thinner than some and heats quickly. The silver finish makes the solder flow smoothly. Tinning the center conductor helps but tinning the braid will not allow it to fit into the connector. These are probably not any more expensive than nickel/phenolic in qty.
We also use a spot of silicone gel on the jacket where it screws into the body, and a machined hand tool that screws onto the connector and forms a Tee handle.

73,

Dale W40P

Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 09:57:09 EST
From: K4BYF@aol.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [160269] Measurement
Message-ID: <16b.25a74af6.2cd12f45@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

To measure QRP peak to peak output with a scope, should I attach the probe directly to the antenna output terminal or does that load it down? 72 de Jack

Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 15:12:07 +0000
From: Chuck Adams <k7qo@commspeed.net>
To: w5kdj@juno.com,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [160270] Re: FOX - W5KDJ
Message-ID: <5.2.1.1.0.20031029151117.01dda8b0@mail.commspeed.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

At 10:53 PM 10/28/2003 -0600, Wayne Rogers wrote:
>Well that was quite an experience.
>93 QSO's logged. Will forward log tomorrow for any corrections & my
>comments.
>I feel kinda tired for some reason.
>
>Wayne_W5KDJ

You really want to know what tired feels like? Do the same thing
for 24 hours this weekend. :-)

Good job Wayne. Couldn't hear anything here in AZ last night.

Chuck Adams K7QO k7qo@commspeed.net
<http://www.qsl.net/k7qo> CP-60

Moving to Arizona? Please bring your own water.

Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 10:23:59 -0500
From: John Sielke <jsielke@pobox.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [160271] Re: Andy Rooney World Radio
Message-ID: <200310291023.59624.jsielke@pobox.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="us-ascii"

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Disposition: inline

>Can anyone figure which radio Andy has on his desk in the picture on the
>front of the Nov World Radio 72 Cal KF7ET

He is an Andy Rooney lookalike, but inside it says he's an ARRL director. I
forget which one.

John W2AGN

Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 07:26:36 -0800 (PST)
From: Lloyd Lachow <llachow@yahoo.com>
To: a low-energy group <grp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [160272] FOX Hunting...persistence pays!
Message-ID: <20031029152636.77936.qmail@web41005.mail.yahoo.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Don't give up! I said to myself, at about 0333Z
last night, after calling Wayne-Fox since 0208Z, with
a short break to grab a pelt from Mert, thanks, Mert.

But I almost did. Hey, I'm not on a team, right? No
one to let down. I already had one pelt...yeah, let's
go take that shower and crawl into bed...

No. I must be resolute. Skip is a funny thing. One
never knows...

I heard Wayne pretty much the entire time, but very
near the noise, with increasing QSB. But the QSB swung
both ways, and I got that pelt at 0350Z, during a
brief rift in the etheric fabric. Thanks, Wayne.

Not very easy, but very, very fun. Thanks again for
both Foxii. Two hours of hard work = a lot of fun for
many happy ops.

=====

73, 72 es oo, Lloyd, K3ESE - Reisterstown, Maryland
KX1#11 - multiPIG+14 - K1#379 - 20/40M RockMites
Hunk o' Wahr - Begali Magnetic Classic Paddles
ARRL - ARS - QRParci - QCWA - FISTS #8774
FPQRP #476 - QRP-L - BORG #2

Fun = Skill / Power !

8^D

Do you Yahoo!?

Exclusive Video Premiere - Britney Spears

<http://launch.yahoo.com/promos/britneyspears/>

Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 07:42:46 -0800 (PST)

From: Bob KB2FEL <kb2fel@yahoo.com>

To: Low Power Amateur Radio <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>

Subject: [160273] Re: Foxii - Only one

Message-ID: <20031029154247.63157.qmail@web80602.mail.yahoo.com>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

This was not my first hunt, I did bag a couple of pelts over the summer. It was my first hunt with pile ups.

Both operators did a fine job. Their operating rivaled the best and most rare DX station I have ever heard.

I was thrilled to see how much noise all of us Low Power ops could make. 5 min into the hunt it sounded like the rarest IOTA station just came on.

It was fairly easy to find and work W0UFO. It only took me an hour of calling to work him. I found the second pile up for W5KDJ but could not hear him.

As I was listening to the pile up, I thought to myself, (I wonder how many QRO DX hounds find the pile ups and then check the DX clusters only to find no postings).

TNX all for the fun

72

Bob

KB2FEL/8

Setting this seasons first pelt out to tan!

Do you Yahoo!?

Exclusive Video Premiere - Britney Spears

<http://launch.yahoo.com/promos/britneyspears/>

Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 09:16:08 -0600
From: Mark Milburn <mark.milburn@ispwest.com>
To: QRP-L List <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [160274] Iowa QRP Club CW net
Message-ID: <3F9FD9B8.E9C490FB@ispwest.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

The Iowa QRP Club CW Net will be held on or around 3.709 Wednesday night at 8 PM Iowa time, or Thursday morning 0200Z.

Join us if you can.

72 Mark KQ0I
Des Moines, Iowa

Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 08:29:53 -0800 (PST)
From: Lloyd Lachow <llachow@yahoo.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [160275] Re: Foxii - Only one
Message-ID: <20031029162953.60734.qmail@web41003.mail.yahoo.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

--- Bob KB2FEL <kb2fel@yahoo.com> wrote:
> I was thrilled to see how much noise all of us Low
> Power ops could make. 5 min into the hunt it
> sounded
> like the rarest IOTA station just came on.

You should see what that's like when it's coming
at YOU!

> As I was listening to the pile up, I thought to
> myself, (I wonder how many QRO DX hounds find the
> pile

> ups and then check the DX clusters only to find no
> postings).

Indeed! Never thought of that, but I bet it happens
all the time!

LL

Do you Yahoo!?
Exclusive Video Premiere - Britney Spears
<http://launch.yahoo.com/promos/britneyspears/>

Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 11:18:06 -0600
From: "Lew Paceley" <lew@paceley.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Cc: <llachow@yahoo.com>
Subject: [160276] Re: FOX Hunting...persistence pays!
Message-ID: <005001c39e40\$9e9b9dc0\$6501a8c0@swbell.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="Windows-1252"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Lloyd,
That's the spirit of the hunt - never say die! Every season I seem to
have a few QSOs right before the closing gong, often at near ESP
levels. Fortunately we have EXCELLENT and tenacious foxii so they
always manage to pull me through...with a fill or two...or three :-)

There was a ferocious pigpile on Dan last night too. My Dallas area
compadres didn't have much of a problem working him but here in Austin
Dan was just a whisper and I'm sure I was just the same to him.

See you in a few weeks, Mr. Fox! GL es

72/73,
Lew
N5ZE

Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 12:53:34 -0500
From: w9ya <w9ya@arrl.net>

To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [160277] Re: Measurement
Message-ID: <200310291253.34449.w9ya@arrl.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Disposition: inline

On Wednesday 29 October 2003 09:57 am, K4BYF@aol.com wrote:
> To measure QRP peak to peak output with a scope, should I attach the probe
> directly to the antenna output terminal or does that load it down? 72 de
> Jack

Hey Jack;

I just place the 10x probe tip right into the center pin of one of the two females and clip the ground lead accordingly. The 10x setting on a scope with a 1 meg ohm vertical input represents (essentially) a 10 meg ohm loading of the antenna, which as you might guess is beyond insignificant. (Grin) Of course this is why I use a bnc tee fitting so I can add my dummy load, wattmeter, etc while using the scope.

As an added bonus I use the scope's vertical amp output to feed a freq. counter.

Hope this helps.

Vy 73;

Bob
w9ya

Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 12:47:21 -0500
From: "Armin Hachmer" <armin@muskoka.com>
To: "QRP-Canada" <qrp-canada@neale.gpfn.sk.ca>,
 "QRP-L" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [160278] did the flare flare?
Message-ID: <002f01c39e44\$b5457a60\$886c7bd8@muskoka.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

looks like we got off easy

but the bands sure are poor.
had a chat on 40 with a mobile
when he got 5 miles from me and lost him when he got 5 miles the other way..

Armin VE3TEQ-VA3YB
Central Ontario

Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 13:11:23 -0500
From: n8ie@woh.rr.com
To: fpqrp-1@mpna.com
Cc: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [160279] Twas the night before Sweep Stakes
Message-ID: <162af1604b.1604b162af@columbus.rr.com>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-language: en
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT
Content-disposition: inline

Thought I'd post it again this year.
Enjoy and hope to work you in the sweeps!

Twas the night before Sweep Stakes and all through the bands,
Not a signal was Q'ing, not even VE-land.
The dipole was hung by the oak trees with care,
In hopes that all 80 would hear me out there.

The rigs were all ready their LED's glowed red,
While visions of plaques and awards ran through my head.
And my Elmer in the kitchen, and I in my FISTS shirt,
Had just finished arguing who would come in first.

When out in the yard there arose such a clatter,
We sprang from the table to see what was the matter.
Away to the screen door I ran like a flash,
Caught the stove corner and my leg got a gash.

The sparks of the power lines and the new fallen dipole,
Gave the luster of mid-day as we both said "OH NO!".
When what to our wondering eyes should we see,
The body of a dead squirrel at the base of the tree.

With little time left we had to act quick,
I knew right then we needed our friend Nick.
More rapid that code we called and he came,
He brought over his buddies and yelled out there names.

"Now Bubba! Now Fred! get the rope and start swaying,
Come on John! stop that Ralph, put down that squirrel and stop playing!
To the top of the trees! tie them ropes well,"
Bubba broke wind, and Fred nearly fell!

As dry leaves crackle and cold winds fly,
When they meet with an obstacle, obscenities flew,
So up to the trees and the roof the cursers ran quick,
With a hand full of tools, except for Nick.

And then in a twinkling, I heard on the roof
The slipping and scraping of shingles that were loose.
As I covered my mouth, and was turning around,
Down the chimney came Nick with a thud to the ground.

He was covered in leaves from his head to his foot,
His clothes were all ripped and smeared with soot.
He landed on his back, just missed the front stoop,
But he managed to land right in my dogs poop.

His eyes glassed over, his expression not very merry,
His cheeks were like roses, in his nose was stuck a black berry!
His mouth was drawn up as tight as a bow,
Then he spit out two teeth right into the snow.

The stump of his cigar he had in his teeth,
Was now lodged in his hair and smoked like a wreath.
He brushed it out; ashes fell to his round belly,
As he cussed it shook like a bowl full of jelly.

He was a sight like a plump jolly elf,
And I laughed as I saw him in spite of myself.
A twitch of his arm and a twist of his head,
He gave me a look that I knew I would dread.

He spoke not a word and went back to work,
He got the dipole up and muttered "there you jerk".
Laying his fingers aside his sore nose,
He told me I owed him some new close.

He sprang to his pickup and gave his team a whistle,
And away they flew down the driveway like the down of a thistle.
But I heard him exclaim as his tires squealed like a pig,
"Good luck tomorrow, and I left the squirrel on your rig"!

Good luck everyone and have fun!

72, oo
Dan, N8IE
FPqrp #-6, QRP-1 #1404, FISTS #4985

Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 13:23:05 -0800
From: "dave" <kd3pc@mindspring.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [160280] Looking for NTE 180 and 181
Message-ID: <000a01c39e62\$d89171e0\$09000000a@esprit>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Guys and Gals

I am looking for two each NTE180 and NTE181 or two sets of NTE180MCP. Let me know price and condition. Trying to ind them here before ordering from NTE

thanks

dave dabay

Dave Dabay KD3PC
2519 Carolina Avenue
Roanoke, VA 24014
540-345-5370

Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 13:46:33 -0500
From: "KB0VCC" <kb0vcc@Adelphia.Net>
To: <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [160281] Re: did the flare flare?
Message-ID: <000301c39e4c\$f9e84dc0\$6501a8c0@DaleCompaq>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

HF condx pretty poor here but still plenty workable. Heard the familiar sound of a toneless AU prop' CW CQ calling on 144.200 MHz early this morning. Was NY2Z (428 miles) but I had expected much worse condx on HF and better on 2m. Sort of disappointing. We are socked in with monsoon WX here, so couldn't see the northern sky, however I suspect it wasn't all that spectacular, as even smaller GM storms have had greater impact on propagation condx in the past.

72/73,
Dale

=====
Dale Anderson, KB0VCC In the Mt Washington Valley
QRP-L #91 / QRP-NE #600 Conway, New Hampshire
ARS #234 / FISTS #3172 Grid Sq: FN43kx
CQC #251 / QRP-ARCI #11446 <http://www.qsl.net/kb0vcc>

Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 12:44:14 -0600
From: "Jerry Ford" <benlightnd13@mchsi.com>
To: "qrp-1" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [160282] Re: did the flare flare?
Message-ID: <009c01c39e4c\$a7801cc0\$4a78da0c@mchsi.com>

All seems normal here in M0.

Several signals heard on 20 and 40. I didn't check further. So, I'll test is another way. I have to mow the yard. That will take about 4 hours. Lets see if I can improve my tan while I'm at it. < grin >

Later folks

72 Jerry NOJRN

----- Original Message -----

From: "Armin Hachmer" <armin@muskoka.com>

To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>

Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2003 11:47 AM

Subject: did the flare flare?

> looks like we got off easy
> but the bands sure are poor.
> had a chat on 40 with a mobile
> when he got 5 miles from me and lost him when he got 5 miles the
other way..
>
> Armin VE3TEQ-VA3YB
> Central Ontario
>

Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 19:08:43 +0000

From: John P-G <gm4slv@btopenworld.com>

To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu

Subject: [160283] Re: did the flare flare?

Message-ID: <go30qvomghbuiafu2abk4sleqap2r3b6d5@4ax.com>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1

Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

Recently KB0VCC wrote:

>
>HF condx pretty poor here but still plenty workable. Heard the familiar
>sound of a toneless AU prop' CW CQ calling on 144.200 MHz early
>this morning. Was NY2Z (428 miles) but I had expected much worse
>condx on HF and better on 2m. Sort of disappointing. We are socked
>in with monsoon WX here, so couldn't see the northern sky, however I
>suspect it wasn't all that spectacular, as even smaller GM storms have
>had greater impact on propagation condx in the past.

Here in Shetland (60=B0N) HF is pretty much totally dead due to huge
PCA, that's what you get for living in the Auroral Zone!

I'm hoping there's a cloudless night to see if the Northern Lights are
playing tonight as a consolation.

Since the HF bands aren't useable, might as well do some iambic keyer practice (I'm a recent conver to the squeeze mode and need all the practice I can get!)

Cheers from Shetland

John

--=20

GM4SLV

G-QRP-Club: 2377 QRP-L : #2514

K1-2 (40 & 20) : #1672

Shetland Islands, UK

Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 12:16:52 -0700 (MST)
From: Paul Harden <pharden@revere.aoc.nrao.edu>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [160284] Shock wave hit
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.1031029095517.16102A-100000@paso>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Gang,

The shockwave from yesterdays X17 flare struck the earth at 0625 UTC 29 Oct 2003, or a little after midnight Mountain time. All I could see from Socorro, NM was a slight red glow to the northeast for about 30 minutes. I am at 32 deg. N, 107 deg. W. I would expect better displays were seen in the northern states, such as from Wyoming to Washington. Still, it is *very* unusual to see auroral displays this far south, and the dull red glow is typically what we see.

This was considered to be the second strongest shockwave to hit the earth in recorded times. However, the magnetic field remained north pointing (+Bz), minimizing the activity of the auroral display and geomagnetic storm.

That is not to say we did not get a geomagnetic storm. While most of us were sleeping, the Earth experienced a very strong SEVERE geomagnetic storm. K=9 (on the K 1-9 scale) and the estimated A-index reached 400.

We are still being bombarded with particles from this event and auroral activity is persisting over Asia right now. It is unlikely this will persist to produce auroras for North America by the time night falls for

us tonight.

Science agencies are still trying to figure out the strength of the shock wave. All of the proton and particle sensors on the ACE, LASCO and SOHO satellites were blown into full saturation and some failed. Whether or not this is a permanent failure of these sensors remains to be seen. It is hoped the sensor elements were just highly charged by the arriving wavefront of electrons. As soon as the charge bleeds off, hopefully the sensors can be restored to normal.

NOAA received some skepticism regarding their estimate of how fast this shockwave was traveling, predicting the 0600-0700 UTC arrival time based on their speed estimate of 2200 km/sec., or about 5 million MPH. We know that when a shockwave leaves the sun, it will experience some slowing as it travels through the interplanetary space. But there is just no data to estimate how much slowing such a fast shockwave will experience. From what we experienced, it seems NOAA had it "right on." Kudos to SEC/NOAA.

Driving into work this morning, the local radio news was STILL predicting the arrival of the CME, I guess still based on the original press releases that predicted it's arrival for later today.

HOW IS THE SHOCKWAVE MEASURED?

We have gobs of earth-based and space-based instruments for observing the sun at various wavelengths. Observing the CME and escaping shockwave is the most difficult.

As the shockwave leaves the sun's surface at the footprint of a solar flare, it can not be seen because the brightness of the sun, at optical and radio frequencies, is brighter than the escaping plasma. As it gets away from the sun, it can finally be seen. The images you have seen from the SOHO satellite showing the expanding full halo CME, for example, shows this escaping shockwave. While it makes for pretty pictures, there are very few good measurements that can be made from these images. While the speed can be closely estimated, the particle density remains unknown, for example.

These halo CME images are NOT the shockwave itself. What these images show are the escaping particles that get caught up in the magnetic field lines of the flare. Strong magnetic field lines leave the sun at the site of the flare and return near it. When the shockwave leaves the sun, some of the particles get caught in these magnetic field lines, flowing along them to "paint" the outline of the magnetic fields. This is neat, but the shockwave itself is long gone. That's what the halo is all about ... the toroidal pattern of the magnetic field lines of the flare event.

As the shockwave leaves the sun's surface, it "punches" through the magnetic field lines of both the sun's magnetic field and the magnetic field of the

disturbance. As the particles punch through these field lines, it generates a burst of radio energy. The farther away from the sun's surface, the LOWER the frequency of the burst. Typically, these bursts are first "heard" around 1GHz, then very quickly drop to around 300MHz, then 200MHz, 100MHz, and on a very strong, fast moving shockwave, bursts down to 10MHz have occurred. As these particles are leaving, it generates bursts at these frequencies as it punches through the field lines at different heights above the sun's surface. This can continue for minutes or tens of minutes. From earth, you hear bursts at high frequencies, sweeping to the lower frequencies around 20MHz/sec. These are known as "Type II sweeps." If you were having a QSO, you would hear pops, like ignition noise, as these Type II bursts swept past your frequency.

Solar scientists know the exact height above the sun where certain frequencies are generated based on the particle density of the solar atmosphere. Therefore, by measuring the time it takes for a burst to occur at one frequency (say 400MHz) vs another (say 300MHz), you can calculate the speed of the shockwave. This has been done since the 1960's and still the method used today to measure the speed of the escaping shockwave.

Then, tens of hours later, the shockwave passes the various satellites in orbit outside the earth. These sensors are measuring the solar wind, generally. A shockwave will appear as a sudden increase in the solar wind. On a typical CME shockwave, the LASCO satellite will detect and measure the arrival of the shockwave, giving scientists on earth about 45 minutes warning before it actually impacts Earth. Last night's shockwave took less than 20 minutes from LASCO detection to impact, clearly indicating the shockwave was traveling twice faster than most shockwaves.

Here's the real problem in science today. Once the shockwave leaves the sun, say more than 3 solar radii outward, it produces no measurable effects. It's away from the field lines, so no longer generating Type II sweeps. So it travels towards the earth (if it's directed that way) absolutely invisible and unseen until the forward wavefront starts passing the various satellites in orbit. So for the 93 million miles of travel between the sun and earth, only a fraction of a percent of it can the shockwave actually be seen, detected or measured. 99% of that distance the shockwave is in total stealth mode!

So estimating the speed and arrival time is done virtually exclusively during the first few minutes of a flare, measuring the Type II sweeps. It's all based on how accurately that is done.

So yesterday, we have an X17 flare. It blew out a shockwave at least two times faster than most large flares produce. The radio energy generated as the shockwave punched through these magnetic field lines was enormous. In many instances, the receivers on earth used for detecting these Type II sweeps were initially saturated. It's like your QRP rig setup for receiving

an S4 signal, when all of a sudden, it goes to 40dB over S9. The S meter pegs, your AGC just can not keep up with it. You know the signal is there and it's strong, but so strong you can not copy the CW or hear the SSB. Until you manually turn down the RF gain and disable the AGC. That's what happened yesterday, the receivers were overloaded at first, and the initial wavefront of the shockwave, used to positively observe the first passage through the field lines, was saturated and lost. When things were properly setup for an energetic event, the shockwave was blowing through the field lines so fast, it was producing several Type II sweeps simultaneously, such that it was very difficult to follow each wavefront through the field lines.

BTW, receivers used for this sort of thing and radio astronomy in general do NOT have AGC. To make these measurements, you need to measure the absolute signal strength of the received signal with no AGC action. So your dynamic range is limited over the same receiver with AGC. Attenuators, usually in 10-20dB steps, are switched in via coaxial relays, at the front ends of the receivers. This is seldom done automatically, but only by human, manual intervention.

How NOAA sorted all of that out I don't know. But they did, and came up with a shockwave around 2200-2300 km/sec. This is two times faster than even a large shockwave normally is. You can see how others raised their eyebrows in skepticism. It's like watching your local TV weather, and the forecast for tomorrow is 200 MPH winds. You'd be just a little skeptical! The weather dude clearly misread his instruments. But NOAA stood by their guns and their shockwave estimate and arrival time were right on. An excellent job on their part.

I received several emails yesterday wanting to know how the shockwave was measured and how we knew what the trajectory was going to be. So I figured some of you might be interested as well.

The above answers how the shockwave is measured. The trajectory is unknown until it gets here. Again, 99% of the travel distance of these shockwaves is invisible to present day instrumentation. A fair amount of "black art" is used when NOAA makes their daily predictions, since so much of the event is unseen until it gets here. Still, they do a pretty outstanding job it seems to me.

There are instruments being proposed in an attempt to "see" the shockwave as it travels through the interplanetary medium. The ideal would be a low frequency instrument, <1MHz for measuring plasma temperatures, and located on the earth and a couple of others far away from the earth, such as between earth's orbit and Venus, to observe the incoming wavefront of plasma and particles. That would obviously be a very expensive instrument. In the meantime, the earthbased low frequency array, called LOWFER, is being proposed for possible funding in the next few years.

72 fer now,
Paul NA5N

Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 14:41:23 -0500
From: Ed Tanton <n4xy@earthlink.net>
To: qrp-L Reflector <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>, noga <nogaqrp@mailman.qth.net>
Subject: [160285] Fwd: WWV-Message
Message-ID: <6.0.0.22.2.20031029144048.04553eb8@pop.earthlink.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

>:Product: Geophysical Alert Message www.txt
>:Issued: 2003 Oct 29 1804 UTC
># Prepared by the US Dept. of Commerce, NOAA, Space Environment Center
>#
># Geophysical Alert Message
>#
>Solar-terrestrial indices for 28 October follow.
>Solar flux 274 and mid-latitude A-index 20.
>The mid-latitude K-index at 1800 UTC on 29 October was 7 (240 nT).
>
>Space weather for the past 24 hours has been extreme.
>Geomagnetic storms reaching the G5 level occurred.
>Solar radiation storms reaching the S4 level occurred.
>Radio blackouts reaching the R3 level occurred.
>
>Space weather for the next 24 hours is expected to be severe.
>Geomagnetic storms reaching the G4 level are expected.
>Solar radiation storms reaching the S2 level are expected.
>Radio blackouts reaching the R3 level are expected.

72/73 Ed Tanton N4XY <n4xy@earthlink.net>

Ed Tanton N4XY
189 Pioneer Trail
Marietta, GA 30068-3466

website: <http://www.n4xy.com>

All emails <IN> & <OUT> checked by
Norton AntiVirus with AutoProtect

LM: ARRL QCWA AMSAT & INDEXA;

SEDXC NCDXA GACW QRP-ARCI
OK-QRP QRP-L #758 K2 (FT) #00057

"He that gives up a little liberty to gain
temporary security will lose both and
deserve neither".
--Benjamin Franklin

"Suppose you were an idiot ...
and suppose you were a member of
Congress... but I repeat myself."
--Mark Twain

Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 14:56:08 -0500
From: w9ya <w9ya@arrl.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [160286] Re: Shock wave hit
Message-ID: <200310291456.08669.w9ya@arrl.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Disposition: inline

WOW, what a *GREAT* read Paul. Thanxs ever so much.

es VY 72 OM;

de
Bob
w9ya

On Wednesday 29 October 2003 02:16 pm, Paul Harden wrote:

> Gang,
> The shockwave from yesterdays X17 flare struck the earth at 0625 UTC
> 29 Oct 2003, or a little after midnight Mountain time. All I could see
> from Socorro, NM was a slight red glow to the northeast for about 30
> minutes. I am at 32 deg. N, 107 deg. W. I would expect better displays
> were seen in the northern states, such as from Wyoming to Washington.
> Still, it is *very* unusual to see auroral displays this far south, and
> the dull red glow is typically what we see.

>

*****SNIPPED

> There are instruments being proposed in an attempt to "see" the shockwave
> as it travels through the interplanetary medium. The ideal would be a low
> frequency instrument, <1MHz for measuring plasma temperatures, and located
> on the earth and a couple of others far away from the earth, such as
> between earth's orbit and Venus, to observe the incoming wavefront of plasma
> and particles. That would obviously be a very expensive instrument. In the
> meantime, the earth-based low frequency array, called LOWFER, is being
> proposed for possible funding in the next few years.

>

> 72 fer now,

> Paul NA5N

Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 14:48:15 -0500
From: Ed Tanton <n4xy@earthlink.net>
To: pharden@revere.aoc.nrao.edu,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [160287] Re: Shock wave hit
Message-ID: <6.0.0.22.2.20031029144748.0423ef90@pop.earthlink.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

Wow! Thanks Paul!!!

73 Ed Tanton N4XY <n4xy@earthlink.net>

Ed Tanton N4XY
189 Pioneer Trail
Marietta, GA 30068-3466

website: <http://www.n4xy.com>

All emails <IN> & <OUT> checked by
Norton AntiVirus with AutoProtect

LM: ARRL QCWA AMSAT & INDEXA;
SEDXC NCDXA GACW QRP-ARCI
OK-QRP QRP-L #758 K2 (FT) #00057

"He that gives up a little liberty to gain
temporary security will lose both and
deserve neither".
--Benjamin Franklin

"Suppose you were an idiot ...
and suppose you were a member of
Congress... but I repeat myself."
--Mark Twain

Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 11:50:47 -0800
From: Bob Nielsen <nielsen@oz.net>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [160288] Re: Shock wave hit
Message-ID: <20031029195047.GA22994@n7xy.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Disposition: inline

No aurora seen here last night--too much light from Seattle (8 mi. E)
although I probably could see more stars to the South and West than any
other time since I moved here.

--
Bob Nielsen, N7XY
Bainbridge Island, WA
n7xy (at) n7xy.net
<http://www.n7xy.net>

Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 15:19:43 -0500
From: <charlescurrey1@imcingular.com> (CHARLES CURREY)
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [160289] Knoxville, TN
Message-ID: <10092684.1211127512@imcingular.com>

Thanks to all who directed me toward Ten-Tec, just east of Knoxville. My wife
enjoyed the Christmas store just down the road. I did not have enough time for the
tour, but the facility is good sized and I'm sure it would have been interesting.
Maybe next year. I get to Knoxville about once a year.

73,

Chuck Currey

Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 16:04:01 -0500
From: "w8diz" <w8diz@cinci.rr.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [160290] Re: Shock wave hit
Message-ID: <003401c39e60\$2ea83350\$b8cf1d41@cinci.rr.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Here we go again...

<http://65.29.207.184:3737/solar.asp>

72 & "oo's" - Dieter (DIZ) Gentzow - W8DIZ - Loveland, Ohio
Clermont County - EM79uf - near Cincinnati; 39:13:05N 84:18:18W
RIG:multiPIG+ ANT:67 FT Vertical Dipole <http://kitsandparts.com>

Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 15:22:52 -0600
From: "sjolin" <sjolin@swbell.net>
To: "Qrp-1 Reflector" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [160291] Another big flare in progress (X10?)
Message-ID: <0d5601c39e62\$d1c52e10\$78d1fea9@DaveSjolin>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Just heard that another major flare is occurring. The word is an X-10. I think I heard it on two meters. Band noise jumped five or six s-units.

BTW, two meters is hopping right now 2100z. Stations as far south as Texas are working aurora. Have at it.

73 de Dave, N0IT

Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 16:28:27 -0800
From: "Sergio T. Ruiz" <sergio@philway.com>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [160292] cw software..
Message-ID: <5.1.0.14.0.20031029162228.0307ee28@mail.neobright.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

because half the day is spent in front of a computer as a systems programmer, and the other half is spent doing digital photo stuff... i am not really keen on spending any more time in front of my computer..

i do like the idea of portable gizmos that free you from the computer..

i have two portable systems that i use for different things..

i use pocket pc for portable audio stuff...

and palmas for everything else..

i really like the audio and headphone capabilities of the pocketpc, and i think this would be a good system to do this...

my question is.. i like the idea of that mfj morse tutor.. is there any software that runs on pocketpc that does something like the mfj morse tutor?

any help would be greatly appreciated!

sergio.. kb8qpt

Sergio T. Ruiz
technology and MIS
Philway Products, Inc.
(419) 281-7777 x232

Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 16:43:30 -0500
From: John Sielke <jsielke@pobox.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [160293] Another One!
Message-ID: <200310291643.30631.jsielke@pobox.com>

MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Disposition: inline

I see an X11 class flare about an hour ago. I think SS this weekend should be for the stout of heart! Good time to be building stuff. Almost finished my MP+ and my KX1 arrived.

John W2AGN

Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 13:50:02 -0800 (PST)
From: Barry N1EU <n1eu@yahoo.com>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [160294] FS: New SW-40+ kit
Message-ID: <20031029215002.27918.qmail@web13202.mail.yahoo.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

I have a new unbuilt SW-40+ kit including the enclosure/controls. It is still in the unopened box received from Small Wonder Labs. It cost \$94. I'm asking \$75 OBO plus \$5 shipping CONUS.

Thanks & 72/73,

Barry N1EU
www.n1eu.com

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Exclusive Video Premiere - Britney Spears
<http://launch.yahoo.com/promos/britneyspears/>

Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 15:51:53 -0600
From: "Merton Nellis" <mertnellis@msn.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [160295] FOX W0UFO prelim log
Message-ID: <BAY3-F10D5quPNlYNsg0003a78a@hotmail.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; format=flowed

Sorry that I couldn't pull in some of you near the end.

Please let me know if you see errors. I will be out of town for a few days,
so please be patient and I will get back.

73 Mert W0UFO

FOX 29 Oct UTC prelim log

0201	N3BJ	579 VA ALAN	5W
2	K3IU	559 RI KEN	5W
2	W0CH	559 MO DAVE	5W
3	AD6JV	559 VA BILL	5W
3	N9KW	599 IL JOHN	5W
4	N4ROA	599 VA DAN	5W
5	W2AGN	579 NJ JOHN	5W
6	K3PH	559 PA BOB	5W
7	K4ADI	559 SC FRANK	5W
8	W8YMO	559 OH HARRY	5W
9	AG0T	559 ND TODD	4W
9	W5YR	559 TX GEORGE	5W
10	N0EA	559 MO WAYNE	5W
11	K2ZN	579 NY AL	5W
12	W5TB	559 TX DOC	5W
12	W5USJ	559 TX CHUCK	5W
13	N8IE	559 OH DAN	5W
15	KB9YIG	579 IN TONY	2W
16	K8KFJ	579 WV GARY	5W
17	KI0II	559 CO RON	5W
17	KC5LD	569 TX DAN	5W
18	W8DIZ	599 OH DIZ	5W
19	K9OZ	559 IL BRUCE	5W
19	N1TP	559 FL TOM	5W
20	K5JHP	559 TX BILL	5W
21	N0JRN	559 MO JERRY	5W
22	N5UW	579 OK CLIF	5W
23	KV2X	559 NY TOM	5W
24	W4DU	579 GA KEN	5W
25	WB4X	559 NC BRENT	5W
26	KJ0C	559 MO JIM	5W
27	K8MIA	559 WV JIM	5W
28	N8VAR	559 OH RON	5W
29	WA8BXN	559 OH MIKE	5W
29	W9JOP/4	559 VA BOB	150MW
30	KC2CK	559 NY DON	5W
32	K5E0A	559 LA WAYNE	5W
33	KW4JS	559 TN JOHN	5W
34	AA50	559 LA VERN	5W
35	K4BYF	559 FL JACK	3W
37	N5ZE	559 TX LEW	5W
37	W7ILW	559 AZ WALT	5W
38	WS5S	559 TN CONARD	5W

39	N0TK	559	CO	DAN	5W
40	VE6EX	559	AB	DAN	5W
40	KC9LC	559	VA	RANDY	5W
42	K50I	559	OK	TIM	5W
43	NF0R	579	MO	DAVE	5W
45	KR0U	559	CO	TIM	5W
45	VA6RF	559	AB	EARL	5W
46	NZ4E	559	VA	MARC	5W
47	NV5V	559	KY	PETE	5W
48	N3ZPQ	559	OH	FRANK	4W
49	AF4LQ	559	KY	MIKE	5W
52	K6VNX	559	CA	ARLEN	5W
53	NK6A	559	CA	DON	5W
55	AC7A	559	AZ	TOM	5W
56	K4BAI	569	GA	JOHN	5W
57	AB9CA	559	AL	DAVE	5W
58	K5DI	559	NM	KARL	5W
58	N5IB	559	LA	JIM	5W
59	KB2FEL	559	WV	BOB	3W
0300	N4IM	579	TX	COLE	5W
01	K5SR	559	TX	DALE	5W
04	KD5CMN	559	TX	MIKE	5W
04	W2XN	559	FL	FRED	5W
06	N5YFC	559	LA	WAYNE	5W
08	N1FN	559	CO	ET	5W
09	K6XR	559	CA	REGGIE	5W
10	K3ESE	559	MD	LLOYD	5W
11	W9XT	559	WI	GARY	5W
12	N4DD	559	TN	DENNIS	5W
13	AJ4AY	559	AL	JAY	5W
13	NK9G	559	IL	RICK	5W
15	AA7EQ	559	AZ	BOB	5W
16	AB8DF	559	MI	ED	5W
17	K2QO	559	NY	MARK	5W
20	N5EBD	559	TX	KEN	5W
21	KD5KXF	599	TX	MIKE	5W
22	N9AW	559	WI	TERRY	5W
23	WA9TZE	559	WI	JIM	5W
24	N0IT	559	MO	DAVE	5W
29	WA8NTA	559	CO	DICK	5W
30	WD8WTU	559	OH	DENNIS	5W
32	K0YWD	559	MT	SKIP	3W
36	WD7Z	559	NM	DAVE	5W
38	AK7Y	559	AZ	GREG	5W
39	KD5UDB	559	LA	CHRIS	5W
40	W2LJ	559	NJ	LARRY	4W
41	WA8ZBT	559	TX	DENNIS	5W
42	AB8FJ	559	OH	TED	5W

45 W4CCU 559 FL DAVID 80W
57 K8CV 559 MI WALT 5W
59 AG4PJ 559 AL DAVE 5W
59 KG6WP 559 CA HOWARD 5W
0400 W5KDJ FOX WAYNE
0400 W0UFO FOX MERT

w0ufo@arrl.net

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providers in your area). <https://broadband.msn.com>

Date: Thu, 30 Oct 2003 01:00:13 +0300
From: "Oleg V. Borodin" <master72@lipetsk.ru>
To: QRP-L <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [160296] EchoLink - IRLP
Message-ID: <4813490527.20031030010013@lipetsk.ru>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Dear Friends!

As I mean IRLP is Internet Radio-Link Programm, isn't it?
Is it correct?

Wish you all the best!
72! de RV3GM Oleg V. Borodin
RU-QRP Club <http://ruqrp.narod.ru>

=== In QRP We Trust! ===

Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 17:06:06 -0500
From: "steve" <swells244@bellsouth.net>
To: <charlescurrey1@imcingular.com>,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [160297] Re: Knoxville, TN
Message-ID: <004801c39e68\$d9dc0b90\$59551244@STEVESL7X513D0>
MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Nothing That I know of in Knoxville but about 30 miles away in Pigeon Forge there is the Ten Tec Store.

Steve

----- Original Message -----

From: "CHARLES CURREY" <charlescurrey1@imcingular.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2003 7:28 AM
Subject: Knoxville, TN

> Group,
>
> I find myself in Knoxville for the next four days with a little spare time on my hands. Does anyone have information on ham radio stores in the area where one might spend a little time browsing? Any help would be appreciated.
>
> 73,
>
> Chuck Currey, kg4qqh
>
>

Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 16:13:32 -0600
From: "Merton Nellis" <mertnellis@msn.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [160298] FOX Hunt
Message-ID: <BAY3-F14NZYMGeON6S0000083ee@hotmail.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; format=flowed

To the Hounds,
Good chase! At least it started out super but I am wondering what happened the last 1/2 hour.

I need someone to tell me what happened.....I think that my sig got buried by some QRO QRMI forgot to check my freq. from time to time. When I finally checked, I heard some strong qrm, XE1? and moved a little but then that got busy too so moved back to 7.042 for the last 15 mins. but I guess I lost the pack. Anyhow, I had fun and hope that others did too.

Sorry that I couldn't pull more sigs out during the last few minutes. I

copied several weak calls but just could not dig out the info. Thanks for trying.

73/ 72 Mert W0UFO ex W9UFO, W8CNC, W4SXM

w0ufo@arrl.net

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Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 16:19:15 -0600
From: "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>
To: <myetsko@insydesw.com>,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [160299] Re: Soldering Coax fittings question
Message-ID: <00a501c39e6a\$b1732060\$0401a8c0@PS>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Mike, not to argue with you, but I think you somewhat overstate the negative aspects of using adapters at HF. Perhaps your comments were addressed to VHF and UHF applications only.

As to mechanical aspects, etc. it is usually best design practice to NOT rely upon the connector for holding strength if the cables, etc. are going to be subject to mechanical stress. Better to secure the cable(s) with appropriate clamps, etc. and rely upon the connectors to connect.

73/72, George
Amateur Radio W5YR - the Yellow Rose of Texas
Fairview, TX 30 mi NE of Dallas in Collin county EM13QE
"Starting the 58th year and it just keeps getting better!"
w5yr@att.net

----- Original Message -----
From: "Mike Yetsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2003 8:06 AM

Subject: Re: Soldering Coax fittings question

> > Sorry if this stirs up a raging PL259 v BNC war, but RF performance
> > aside, on th question of fitting connectors, there appears to be much
> > difficulty around (myself included) that using "proper" RF connectors
> > has got to be a valid solution!
>
> You seem to be under the mistaken impression that the best tool is
> always the best tool for the job.
>
> First off, yes, from an RF standpoint BNCs offer advantages over
> PL-259. But BNCs are hardly the end-all in connectors. For one
> thing, cabling is limited with BNC. And if there is ANY mechanical
> stress to the connection, BNC is a joke.
>
> And before you fire back, yes, I will admit to converting some rigs
> to BNC. In fact, I found that some rigs that have 'pigtails' on them
> with SO-239s you can just unscrew the compression fitting for the
> pigtail and fit a BNC chassis mount jack right there. I did this for
> my old IC-27a years ago. And my K2 setup for home and the
> 'grab-n-go' bag are all BNC.
>
> But BNC is still limited, mostly from a mechanical point of view, and
> the connectors ARE VERY difficult to put on so that they will handle
> mechanical stress.
>
> As to adapters... Why? From an 'RF' standpoint, if you use any
> adapter you've just totally negated any advantage of the BNC. You
> still have the impedance bump of the PL, and you've ADDED another
> from the adapter. Poor thinking there, in my mind. The ONLY place
> I use an adapter is to ADAPT, not to make a permanent fitting. In
> fact, I can think of only 3 places I have adapters. One is BNC to
> binding post. The other two are a UHF amp that came with N
> connectors, and I put on adapters to go to PL just to use a PL interface
> that already existed.
>
> Mike
>
>

Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 17:33:18 -0500
From: "John J. McDonough" <wb8rcr@arrl.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Cc: <jsielke@pobox.com>, "Francis Callahan" <colcal@srv.net>

Subject: [160300] Re: Andy Rooney World Radio
Message-ID: <009401c39e6c\$a6f1b1e0\$080044c0@BrianBoru>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Are you guys looking at the same picture I am? The guy is Walter Cronkite, KB2GSD, and the radio is an FT817.

The picture is a clip from the video "Amateur Radio Today" available on the ARRL website.

72/73 de WB8RCR <http://www.qsl.net/wb8rcr>
didileydadidah QRP-L #1446 Code Warriors #35

----- Original Message -----

From: "John Sielke" <jsielke@pobox.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2003 10:23 AM
Subject: Re: Andy Rooney World Radio

> >Can anyone figgure which raido Andy has on his desk in the picture on the
> >front of the Nov World Radio 72 Cal KF7ET
>
> He is an Andy Rooney lookalike, but inside it says he's an ARRL director.
I
> forget which one.
>
> John W2AGN
>
>

Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 22:32:51 +0000
From: John P-G <gm4slv@btopenworld.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [160301] Re: Soldering Coax fittings question
Message-ID: <ruf0qv87a5banorodo386brv0v84tqc9u8@4ax.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

Recently Mike Yetsko wrote:

>> Sorry if this stirs up a raging PL259 v BNC war, but RF performance
>> aside, on th question of fitting connectors, there appears to be much
>> difficulty around (myself included) that using "proper" RF connectors
>> has got to be a valid solution!

>You seem to be under the mistaken impression that the best tool is=20
>always the best tool for the job.
>

I'm under the impression that the "best tool is always the best tool
for the job."

How is that mistaken?

>First off, yes, from an RF standpoint BNCs offer advantages over
>PL-259. But BNCs are hardly the end-all in connectors. For one=20
>thing, cabling is limited with BNC. And if there is ANY mechanical
>stress to the connection, BNC is a joke. =20

I've installed hundreds (if not thousands) of BNCs and N types and to
my knowledge haven't anything like the problems you describe.

My post was purely from the point of view of the ease of fitting and
the confidence you have that you haven't incinerated the dielectric of
the cable in the process.

>But BNC is still limited, mostly from a mechanical point of view, and
>the connectors ARE VERY difficult to put on so that they will handle
>mechanical stress. =20
>

Can you explain this, as I've not had any problems in my professional
life. UHF, VHF and MF broadcast transmitting stations all over the UK
(and presumably the world) are stuffed full of BNCs, on test leads as
well as permanently installed cabling, and if they were as fragile as
this I think I'd be a lot busier replacing them ;-)

(And I'm talking about the "pressure clamp/ferrule/solder the centre
pin" style of connector).

>As to adapters... Why? =20

To allow me to get away from the dreadful "UHF" connector on the end

of the feeder on equipment that cannot easily be converted to a real RF connector instead of a connector more at home with baseband video.

>From an 'RF' standpoint, if you use any
>adapter you've just totally negated any advantage of the BNC.

True, but a good quality adaptor, mated to a well fitted cable with a BNC on it has got to be better than a dodgy PL259 with the dielectric melted and the braid part soldered....impedance bumps and all!

> The ONLY place I use an adapter is to ADAPT, not to make a permanent = fitting.=20

I would agree - from an RF purist standpoint - but for the fact that if it allows me to use a proper RF connector, with a reliable and easy method of termination onto the feeder I'll live with it!

The OP's question was about the mechanics of fitting, not the relative RF performance, and for my money I'd rather fit and easy (craft knife, 25W soldering iron, pair of spanners) BNC than wrestle with a 100W+ thermal lance on cables with PE dielectric!

Cheers!

John P-G

--=20

GM4SLV

G-QRP-Club: 2377 QRP-L : #2514

K1-2 (40 & 20) : #1672

Shetland Islands, UK

Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 17:30:40 -0500

From: "Mike Yetsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>

To: "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>,

"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [160302] Re: Soldering Coax fittings question

Message-ID: <004501c39e6c\$49fd4ee0\$0200a8c0@charter.net>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain;

charset="iso-8859-1"

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

> Mike, not to argue with you, but I think you somewhat overstate the negative

> aspects of using adapters at HF. Perhaps your comments were addressed to VHF
> and UHF applications only.

That's true. At HF I've use 'pipe fittings' and placed coax in the pipe and then clamped it. (Ok, ok, I've even done that at 220Mhz with hardline...)

> As to mechanical aspects, etc. it is usually best design practice to NOT
> rely upon the connector for holding strength if the cables, etc. are going
> to be subject to mechanical stress. Better to secure the cable(s) with
> appropriate clamps, etc. and rely upon the connectors to connect.

What I've had happen 'mechanically' is that the PL-259/SO-239 generally will take a lot of mechanical abuse. In one scenario, using it as a base for an antenna. Although I doubt you'll see that at HF! But the larger physical size allows for a lot of mechanical rigidity.

As to BNC, they are at a BIG disadvantage. First off, the connectors themselves aren't rigid. And while you won't see PLs used on HF antennas, you WILL see BNCs used on telescoping whips. I've personally seen the center pin of a BNC break off from the flexing. And trust me, it's a real job to get that pin out of the BNC jack without damaging the socket!

The other issue is BNCs tend to be mounted for less stress. Now, this isn't the fault of the BNC, but I've seen far more intermittent connections with BNCs than I've ever seen with PLs due to mechanical movement outside the connector.

Also notice that from a 'mechanical' point of view, the larger diameter of the PL type connector makes it a MUCH more 'mechanically secure' setup, even if the BNC didn't have the 'built in rock'.

While some people find one type of connector easier to put on over others, I think (and it's just my perception) that if you take a group of people, the BNC connectors would not fare very well. Probably the BEST scenario for the mounting of BNCs would be the 'stripper' method used by networks with the crimp-on BNCs. I know VERY few people who would do the ferule and cone ring type mounts unless they are lab workers.

As to securing the cables, you're right on with that! With ANY connector that's mounted at home, I'd lay high odds failure will be at the 'home-made' connector and it will be due to flexing and/or pulling of the cable!

Hey, I'm not blasting BNCs! My HF setup is now ALL BNCs. (I have a K2, so is that cheating?) But I just don't think that the differences make BNCs a hands-down choice for everybody.

And don't get me started on PL connectors. Like the fact there seems to be 2 different standards for how the threads taper...

Mike

Date: Thu, 30 Oct 2003 00:20:03 +0100
From: "Sverre Holm" <la3za@qsl.net>
To: <gm4slv@btopenworld.com>,
 "'Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion'" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [160303] RE: did the flare flare?
Message-ID: <001801c39e73\$341a6ac0\$8e00a8c0@Master>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

> -----Original Message-----
> From: Sverre Holm [mailto:la3za@qsl.net]=20
> Sent: 30. oktober 2003 00:10
> To: 'gm4slv@btopenworld.com'; 'Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion'
> Subject: RE: did the flare flare?
>=20
>=20
> > Here in Shetland (60=B0N) HF is pretty much totally dead due to
> > huge PCA, that's what you get for living in the Auroral Zone!
>=20
> Turn on your radio on 10 meters or 6 meters: Plenty of aurora=20
> in Northern Europe from 22-24 UTC!=20

Oops, this was local time =3D 21-23 UTC

>=20
> It's the first time I have worked aurora, so this was fun,=20
> even with 10 W CW and a horizontal loop. I must have been=20
> lucky and got one of the lobes pointing north!
>=20
> --
> 73,=20
> Sverre,
> 59 deg North near Oslo, Norway

>=20

> -----

> Sverre Holm, LA3ZA

> www.qsl.net/la3za

>=20

>=20

Date: Wed, 29 Oct 2003 23:25:18 +0000

From: John P-G <gm4slv@btopenworld.com>

To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu

Subject: [160304] Re: Soldering Coax fittings question

Message-ID: <nth0qv09sp9tq4l3tivu6m98mohns8jrsh@4ax.com>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

Oh dear... I wish I'd never started!

>What I've had happen 'mechanically' is that the PL-259/SO-239 generally
>will take a lot of mechanical abuse. In one scenario, using it as a =
base
>for an antenna. Although I doubt you'll see that at HF! But the =
larger
>physical size allows for a lot of mechanical rigidity.
>

Well, if you're going to use an RF connector for something other than
coupling RF between a piece of equipment and a cable.....

>As to BNC, they are at a BIG disadvantage. First off, the connectors
>themselves aren't rigid. And while you won't see PLs used on HF
>antennas, you WILL see BNCs used on telescoping whips. I've
>personally seen the center pin of a BNC break off from the flexing.
>And trust me, it's a real job to get that pin out of the BNC jack =
without
>damaging the socket!
>

Again - this isn't really the problem I was trying to address...I
agree that the centre pin of a BNC isn't really strong enough for
that sort of job, but I was more concerned that a BNC (or N type, or
SMA or SMB or 1 5/8 EIA flange....) was easier and more "confidence
giving" to fit on the end of a piece of feeder than those awful
PL259s.

>While some people find one type of connector easier to put on over =
others,
>I think (and it's just my perception) that if you take a group of =
people,
>the BNC connectors would not fare very well. =20

But with practice the BNCs will become so easy to put on you'd do it
in your sleep, but you'll never get get confident that your PL259 is
right inside....

>Probably the BEST scenario for the mounting of BNCs would the 'stripper'=
method used by
>networks with the crimp-on BNCs. I know VERY few people who would
>do the ferule and cone ring type mounts unless they are lab workers.
>

I don't work in a lab, but out in the field and fit solder on
BNC/TNC/N/SMA/B/C (and everything up to 1 5/8 flanges to LDF6-50) in
all manner of environments (including at the top of >200' towers), and
still would fight shy of claiming ever to have fitted a PL259 with any
degree of confidence, they're just nasty!

I'm off to bed now (after a quick aurora check)

Sorry for the bandwith, I jsut feel that amateur radio deserves at
least professional RF connectors rather than the antediluvian PL259.

Cheers,

John

--=20

GM4SLV

G-QRP-Club: 2377 QRP-L : #2514

K1-2 (40 & 20) : #1672

Shetland Islands, UK=20

End of QRP-L Digest 3088
